

## Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 251415Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2464

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T SANAA 1383

EXDIS

DEPT PASS USCINCEUR, AND SECDEF FOR ISA

DHAHRAN FOR CHUSMTM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, YE, JO, SA

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR

REF: SANAA 1319

1. SUMMARY: ON BASIS WEEK-LONG SURVEY BY TWO QUALIFIED JORDANIAN OFFICERS, JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR DESCRIBES YAR DEFENSE POSITION ON PDRY FRONTIER AS HOPELESSLY CHAOTIC. END SUMMARY.

2. JORDAN'S ACTIVE AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA CALLED JULY 25 TO REPORT ON WEEK-LONG SURVEY OF BORDER AREA FROM BAB-EL-MANDEB TO RAHIDA (SOUTH OF TAIZ) BY TWO WELL-QUALIFIED JORDANIAN OFFICERS. AS PROMISED, OFFICERS WERE GIVEN FULL ACCESS BY YARG. THROUGHOUT  
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THEY STAYED WITH BORDER UNITS, SHARED THEIR FOOD AND

CLOSELY INSPECTED DEFENSE POSITIONS AND BACKUP MILITARY COMMAND. IN BRIEF, THEY FOUND A SITUATION OF INCREDIBLE CHAOS. TROOPS HAVE INADEQUATE DIET AND WATER, AND VERY LITTLE AMMUNITION. NO EQUIPMENT IS PROPERLY MAINTAINED. DEFENSE POSITIONS ARE POORLY PLANNED AND SUCH ARTILLERY AS EXISTS MISLOCATED AND NOT SIGHTED INTO INTENDED TARGET AREAS FROM WHICH ATTACK MIGHT COME. BEHIND THE LINES, ORGANIZATION IS A MESS, E.G. IN ONE INSTANCE JORDANIANS FOUND SECTORAL COMMANDER WITH RANK OF CAPTAIN COMMANDING LIEUTENANT COLONELS.

3. AT HIS REQUEST, JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR WILL MEET LATER SAME DAY WITH CIC MUHAMMAD AL-IRYANI AND OTHER SENIOR COMMANDERS TO REVIEW FINDINGS. IT IS HIS EXPECTATION THAT AS RESULT OF THIS MEETING, YEMENIS WILL REQUEST MODEST TEAM OF QUALIFIED JORDANIAN OFFICERS TO ADVISE ON IMPROVEMENTS. AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA INTENDS RECOMMEND TO KING HUSSAIN THAT THESE BE SENT PROMPTLY. HE IS ALSO PUSHING THE YEMENIS TO SEND YAR OFFICERS FOR OBSERVATION OF JORDANIAN MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT AND OTHER FOR TRAINING.

4. MUSTAFA ADVISED THAT ACTUAL NUMBER OF 12.7 MM ROUNDS DELIVERED IN FIRST C-130 FROM JORDAN WAS 6,400 NOT 65,000. THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A GARBLE IN PARA 1 OF AMMAN 3871.

5. AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA SAID HE HAS COUNSELED YARG CUT BACK ON PUBLIC TRIALS AND EXECUTIONS OF CONFESSED SABOTEURS ON GROUNDS THAT SO MANY EXECUTIONS WILL ONLY STIR UP LONG LASTING ANIMOSITIES. HE HAS RECOMMENDED THAT YARG PLACE LOWER RANKING SABOTEURS IN DETENTION CAMPS AND USE COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES TO EXTRACT INFORMATION ABOUT IMPORTANT LEADERS. HE FEELS PUBLIC TRIALS SHOULD BE SAVED FOR LATER. (THIS PARALLELS ADVICE BEING GIVEN YARG BY BRITISH SECURITY ADVISOR WHO FEELS MUCH VALUABLE POTENTIAL INTELLIGENCE HAS BEEN LOST IN THE ZEAL FOR QUICK PUBLIC TRIALS AND SENTENCES.) WHILE IN GENERAL AGREEING WITH POINT MADE BY MUSTAFA AND BRITISH, YARG  
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NOT UNNATURALLY INSISTING ON CONTINUED PUBLIC TRIAL OF THOSE INVOLVED WITH ASSASSINATION OF REPUBLICAN COUNCIL MEMBER MUHAMMAD ALI 'UTHMAN.

6. MUSTAFA HAS BEGUN TO PICK UP INTELLIGENCE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ADEN BUT ADMITS THIS IS SO FAR ON A SOMEWHAT UNPROFESSIONAL AND IMPRECISE BASIS. HE DID, HOWEVER, PASS US REPORT ON ARRIVAL IN ADEN ON APPROXI-

MATELY JULY 17 OF CUBAN SHIP CARRYING 20 T-54 TANKS, FOR WHOM SOME CREWS WERE WAITING AT DOCKSIDE. HE BELIEVES HE HAS CONFIRMATION EARLIER REPORTED PRESENCE IN ADEN OF ONE COMPLETE IRAQI BATTALION, AND TRAVEL TO CUBA FOR GUERRILLA TRAINING OF 350 AGENTS, WITH ALLEGEDLY SOME IRAQIS, PALESTINIANS AND SYRIANS MIXED INTO ONE REASONABLY QUALIFIED INFORMANT OBSERVED THREE MIG'S IN FLIGHT. AMBASSADOR HAS FURTHER REPORT ON ARRIVAL IN ADEN OF IRAQI VESSEL QTE SINDABAD UNQTE CARRYING CARGO OF MACHINEGUNS AND ANTI-TANK MINES.

7. COMMENDABLY, MUSTAFA HAS BEEN WORKING TO GAIN CONFIDENCE OF SAUDI AMBASSADOR SUDAIRY. THE MORE HE DOES SO THE MORE HE IS DISTURBED. IN ONE CONVERSATION ON JULY 23, SUDAIRY VOICED HIS FAVORITE THEME ABOUT NECESSITY FOR REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT IRYANI AND SAID HE PERSONALLY WAS IN FAVOR OF BRINGING BACK ROYALIST PRINCE MUHAMMAD BIN HUSAIN TO RUN YEMEN. (BIN HUSAIN WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND EFFECTIVE SAUDI-BACKED ROYALIST COMMANDER DURING 1962-68.)  
CRAWFORD

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** MASS, YE, JO, SA  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC AMMAN JIDDA ABU DHABI ADDIS ABABA DHAHRAN KUWAIT LONDON  
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